

Notes to the Town

Entering the Holiday Season with Winterfest last weekend, LeRoy Pantry Christmas boxes delivery this weekend, religious observances and family time. Thank you to all those who volunteer for the community in these special events that create memories and tie us together in community.

We are privileged to be the home of LeRoy Pantry and Help Fund. In the past week we have seen untold numbers of volunteers come forward and offer food, toys and monetary donations to meet the need of our community for the holiday season. Humbly, we see first hand the volunteer effort that fills the need and stand in awe of the benefit to LeRoy provided by the LeRoy Pantry and Help Fund. LeRoy is an awesome community filled with care and concern for each other. Action towards community is lived through volunteering. Seasons Blessings to all who volunteer in any way.

Congratulations to the Winterfest committee and the huge success of your efforts. Last weekend we witnessed the parade of lights, enchanted tunnel, stores offering seasonal merchandise and Santa in the Town Hall. Our hats are off to Anne Walters for the commitment, vision and hard work she and her committee put forth on our community behalf.

Departmental Reports:

Assessor Beth Hiscutt indicates all exemption forms have been mailed. Please return those forms by the date indicated for your exempt status. Any questions should be directed to Beth at 768-6910 ext. 221.

Code and Zone Enforcement Officer Gene Sinclair thanks all those who call and set an appointment with him, as his duties do take him from the building on a regular basis. His phone number is 768-6910 ext. 223.

Recreation Director Kristi Bardeen has programs in full swing this month and next. Wildlife Encounter was held Friday, Community Holiday Spirit program, you can still vote at the Town Hall for your favorite decorated business, traditional decorated residence, people's choice favorite and most original residence. Come out and vote for your favorites. Roller Skating opportunity will be January 3rd. See her information in this week's Pennysaver. You can reach Kristi at 768-6910 ext 226.

Court Department has received notification that we were not successful in a drug court grant. Only 73 grant applications were funded and in localities with far greater populations than LeRoy. We appreciate all of the effort that went into the grant application process. Youth Court has been running with caseload increasing. Youth of our community are taught to act in the roles of Defending Attorney, Prosecuting Attorney Court Clerk and Tribunal Judges. To date three sessions have been held. The interaction with Police Department, School Resource Officer, parents and offending youths has been a positive outcome. For more

information on Youth Court please contact Chief Hayward at 768-2527. To reach the court department, please dial 768-6910 ext. 234 or 236.

Town Clerk Patty Canfield shares Tax Bills are due out at the end of the month. Once again she will schedule hours in the evening to accommodate those taxpayers unable to get to the Town Hall during regular business hours.

Taxpayers are also to be aware it is your responsibility to notify Town Clerk if you have not received your tax bill. Tax bills requested by escrow companies should be confirmed by taxpayer. Town will gladly mail you a duplicate tax bill if there is any problem with Escrow Company. To request a duplicate tax bill please call Patty at 768-6910 ext. 224. All late charges apply by state law if tax bills are not received paid by January 31, 2004. There are no exceptions to this law. Take a moment and confirm your tax bill has arrived at your residence or been requested by your escrow company, it will pay to check it out.

Tax bills for Town and County taxes include County Tax, Town Tax, Fire District Tax, Water District Benefit Charge if applicable and re levy of school if applicable.

For the first time Town outside Village Water District owners will be charged sixty cents per thousand gallons of water used from turn over of system on June 30, 2003 to September 30, 2003. Only those customers that utilize water will be charged the sixty cents per thousand gallons. This item will have its own line on your tax bill.

Water District #6 owners will see a charge of debt and interest for the construction of the water line. It will be approximately \$202.25 per residence for Water District #6.

Extension #1 owners will see a charge of interest for borrowed money in preparation of waterline construction for next year. That amount should be approximately \$ 194.12. These charges are to cover the benefit cost of the water line construction owned by the districts.

News on the Highway Hangar building on Asbury Road. The north end wall blew out on 11-13-03 during the windstorm we experienced. The North wall is not a load-bearing wall. The equipment in storage in the building sustained no damage. Town Board is in the review process of alternatives to re-construction of the wall. Structural engineers from our insurance carrier and Town Engineer are working through anticipated costs. We will endeavor to close up the wall prior to year-end.

Highway Department is ready and prepared to provide road safety this winter season. The new truck will be delivered next week. Superintendent Jerry Roth indicates there is still some modification to be performed once the truck hits the garage. We look forward to the new equipment for road maintenance.

Senator Chuck Schumer wanted us to share with you two important items. First, there is money being held by the IRS that you may be owed. Please check for unclaimed/undeliverable tax refunds by using this Internet site: www.schumer.senate.gov. Go to the first link under the yellow "Top Issues" box.

Secondly, a reminder of computer hackers and cyber terrorists and protecting your Internet equipment and personal information. He goes on to share the following important tips:

1. Always use anti-virus software and keep it updated.
2. Always use a firewall.
3. Be aware of what you share.
4. Use unique passwords and don't share them with anyone.
5. Be in control of your software and use tools to enhance protection.

For more information please check out the FTC recently developed website:

www.ftc.gov/infosecurity. Fraud and theft are running rampant and it is essential that we do all we can to protect ourselves from harm.

We remind all home owners to have house numbers be placed in a clear viewing area to aid emergency personnel in times of response to you. By clearly defining your home you save valuable response time. All sidewalks, mailboxes and driveways should be clear to receive traffic too. Interest of personal safety is high priority during winter months.

With the heating season, RG&E along with Niagara Mohawk remind us that if you smell gas in your home GET UP AND GET OUT! From a neighbor's house call 911 to report the smell.

Regularly scheduled meeting for the month is December 18th at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. This will serve as the joint quarterly meeting of the Village and Town Boards. Come and join us for the meeting.

From your entire Town staff and elected officials, Safe and Happy Holiday Season to you all.

Supervisor, Shelley Stein 768-6910 ext.231